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**MAILED**

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,962,700 :  
Issue Date: November 8, 2005 :  
Application No. 09/660,862 :  
Filed: September 13, 2000 :  
Attorney Docket No. **ATOPH:52516** :

**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed September 21, 2011, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

There is no indication that the petition is signed by a registered patent attorney or patent agent of record. However, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.34, the signature of M. Henry Heines appearing on the correspondence shall constitute a representation to the United States Patent and Trademark Office that he is authorized to represent the particular party in whose behalf he acts. If, M. Henry Heines desires to be acknowledged as the attorney of record in this file, the appropriate power of attorney documents must be submitted.

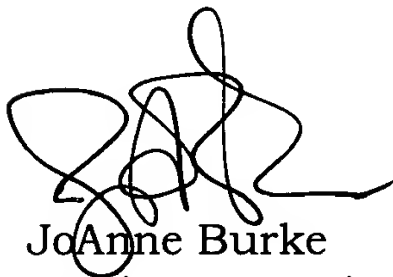
This patent expired at midnight November 9, 2009, for failure to pay the 3½ year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The petition is hereby **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

A petition to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be accompanied by (1) a statement that the delay was unintentional, (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted, and (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2).

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JoAnne Burke', with a stylized, cursive script.

JoAnne Burke  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions